

molokai Reporter

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 1

Molokai, Hawaii

NOVEMBER 5, 1969

Libby Plantation: Work "as usual"

Plans by Libby, McNeill & Libby--Molokai's largest single employer--to sell its Maunaloa pineapple plantation have had little apparent effect on Molokai so far.

R. H. Moltzau, manager of the Maunaloa plantation, emphasizes that business will continue "as usual" during sale negotiations.

Libby announced last month that it "is exploring with certain food companies the possibility of selling its Hawaiian pineapple operations." Libby intends to sell the plantation to a firm that will continue growing pineapple on the land.

Last week, the plantation "furloughed" its 101 non-regular employes. "This announcement should not be a cause for alarm," Moltzau said in announcing the action. "This is the usual procedure which occurs every year."

"There have been rumors circulating that this plantation is about to cease operating," Moltzau said. "There is no truth to these rumors. We are looking forward to the largest harvest season in the history of this plantation next year."

The furloughed non-regular employes will be recalled for work next year when they are needed, he said. The Libby work force on Molokai now totals about 300 persons.

New Tour Developments Set for Friendly Isle

Largest Development Planned at Molokai Ranch

Molokai has a reputation as the least developed--and the most truly "Hawaiian"--of the major Hawaiian Islands.

This is a reputation that will undergo a severe test in the next decade as a series of ambitious tourist development plans begin coming to fruition.

These plans will have an immense impact--for better or worse--on the quiet, rural life of Molokai's 6,000 residents.

The largest development will be built on Molokai Ranch land on the island's west end. Plans call for an eventual permanent community of 30,000 persons, at a cost of several hundred million dollars.

Preparations now are underway for development of the project's first increment of 3,400 acres. This first portion is to include seven hotels with a total of up to 1,500 rooms, two 18-hole golf courses, and homes and apartment buildings.

Work on initial land improvements--such as access roads, landscaping preparations, water transmission lines and employee housing--is to begin next spring.

The Molokai Ranch lands are being developed by the Kalaukoi Corp., a partnership between Louisiana Land



Ted Watson surveys Molokai Ranch with architect Chas. Griggs

and Exploration Co. and the Molokai Ranch, which owns about 75,000 of the 160,000 acres of land on the island. Ted Watson, general manager for Kalaukoi, said the project's first hotel could be opened by late 1973.

Another major project has begun at Puaahala on Molokai's east end. A dredging machine now is in operation at the site, dredging a shoal area for eventual construction of a 2,000-boat marina.

The Puaahala Co., developers of the area, owns 800 acres of land. The company plans to develop sites for homes, apartments, businesses, and seven 250-room hotels.

Paul Noel, a partner in the Puaahala Co., said the first hotel should be completed by late 1971.

George Murphy's beautiful 15,000-acre Puu O Hoku Ranch on Molokai's eastern

tip is another area ripe for tourist development. Murphy said last month that he was discussing possible development of the ranch with a company in Houston.

The property of the Diam-

(see page 3)

NEW NEWSPAPER!

Today marks the publication of the first issue of the Molokai Reporter, a newspaper for and about the Friendly Isle.

The Reporter will be published on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, and will be mailed without charge to all Molokai postal patrons.

The editor and publisher is Don Graydon, a former UPI reporter and public relations writer for the University of California. Sid Kent is serving as photographer.

Reservoir Dedication Scheduled

The Kualapuu Reservoir, largest man-made reservoir in Hawaii, will be dedicated at ceremonies Nov. 15 marking its completion.

The public is invited to attend the ceremonies at 11:30 a.m., during which water will be released for the first time into the reservoir.

The 1.4-billion-gallon reservoir is the final facility in the \$9.9 million Molokai Irrigation Project. The irrigation project also includes transmission pipelines and a five-mile tunnel to bring water to the reservoir from Waikolu Stream on Molokai's rainy northern side.

The reservoir will provide Molokai's dry west end with its first dependable year-around supply of water. Most of the water is to be used for irrigation of pineapple.

The Kualapuu facility is the world's largest rubber-lined reservoir.

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MURPHY MERSBERG
Laying the rubber lining
at Kualapuu Reservoir



The sun rises above the new Kualapuu Reservoir, showing the rows of sand bags put there to hold the reservoir's rubber lining in place. The 1.4-billion-gallon reservoir will be dedicated Nov. 15. (See story page 1)

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 5:

Lyceum Series presents Peter Coraggio and the Theater of Madness. Lecture-demonstration on modern man and his music. Molokai Community Center recreation hall, 7:30 p.m. Season ticket, or tickets at door: Students 50¢, Adults \$1.25.

SATURDAY, NOV. 8:

Arbor Day activity: planting of cocoanut trees by Boy Scout Troop 17 at Kaunakakai intersection across from Bank of Hawaii, 10 a.m.

TUESDAY, NOV. 11:

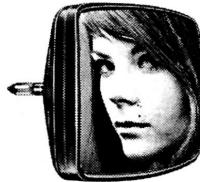
Kaunakakai School PTA, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15:

Dedication of new Kualapuu Reservoir, 11:30 a.m. David McClung, Hawaii Senate President, speaking at a meeting sponsored by the Molokai Democratic Party and Young Democrats. Kaunakakai School, 2:30 p.m.

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Molokai Canoe Crosses Channel

A nine-man crew from Molokai was among 12 teams of paddlers who successfully completed the 38-mile crossing to Waikiki during the 1969 Molokai to Oahu Canoe Race.

Paddlers from the Hawaiian Athletic Canoe Club of Molokai finished seventh in the Koa Division of the race held last month. The team placed ninth overall among the 12 competing canoes. Time for the Molokai team was 7 hours, 38 minutes, 32 seconds.

Molokai paddlers who accomplished the rugged paddling feat are Sammy Akiona, Ronald Davis, Marvin Dudoit, George English, Asa Hew, Weymouth Kamakana, Ronald Kimball, Vernon Kimball and Walter Ritte. David Rawlins coached the team.



Mitchell Pauole, the youngest 81-year-old in Hawaii, now is hard at work in his fourth term as honorary mayor of Molokai. Mayor Pauole, an isle resident for 45 years, keeps busy greeting visitors at Molokai Airport and representing the island at public functions.

FUND DRIVE UNDERWAY

The Molokai Community Chest is seeking \$17,500 in donations during its current fund drive.

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MARRIAGE LICENSES

Arturo A. Villa, 21, Kamiloa, and Sharlene H. Nakamoto, 19, Kualapuu, Oct. 6.
Robert H. Wander, 25, Columbus, Ohio, and Carol Ann Adams, 24, Kaunakakai (formerly Cleveland, Ohio), Oct. 26.

BIRTHS

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hamakua, Hoolehua, baby Kimokea Joseph, Oct. 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Mariano Patague, Kualapuu, baby Nida Magday, Oct. 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Felix Igarta, Maunaloa, baby Elizabeth Tumbaga, Oct. 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Charles Thomason, Kaunakakai, baby Raymond Charles Jr., Oct. 2.

Mr. and Mrs. Petronilo Palad, Maunaloa, baby Petronilo Jr., Oct. 5.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Kimball, Kaunakakai, baby Steven John, Oct. 8.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Akiona, Kaunakakai, baby Clinton, Oct. 28.

Shinye Gima, vice principal of Molokai High, has been elected new president of the Molokai Community Arts Council.

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CAP Projects

Molokai's Community Action Program is currently working to establish a garment factory and a "mini-bus" line on Molokai.

Fred Bicoy, director of the federally-funded Community Action Program (CAP), said the organization is seeking land in Kaunakakai as a site for the garment factory building.

Tentative plans call for construction of a building to house 24 sewing machines and their operators. He said a Honolulu firm has expressed interest in paying Molokai women to sew pre-fabric into shirts, dresses, muu-muu and other garments.

Bicoy also said there is a need on Molokai for a bus service, using small van-type vehicles, to transport workers, elderly persons, and pre-school children to various places on Molokai.

The "mini-bus" service could be started with three vehicles, Bicoy said. He said each of the buses, seating about 10 to 15 persons, would cost between \$3,000 and \$4,000.

Bicoy said both projects could be eligible for loan assistance from the federal Small Business Administration.

IMPROVEMENTS FOR PARK

The State Parks Division is working on plans for improvements at Palau Park near the Kalaupapa lookout. The addition of a waterline, pavilion, rest room and new picnic tables and barbecue pits is to be completed before next summer.



Murphy Ranch: cattle today, tourists tomorrow?

Tourist Developments

(Cont. from page 1)
J Ranch is another potential tourist development site. The ranch is located on the east end, near Puahala.

Developers also are eyeing the Kalawao Peninsula, an 8,500-acre area cut off from the rest of Molokai by high cliffs. The area could possibly be opened for development when the leprosarium at Kalaupapa is phased out in the future.

Hotel Molokai, presently the island's only tourist-oriented hotel, has begun



George Murphy Paul Noel
construction of 28 new rooms. The hotel now has 53 rooms.

Manager Mike Givens said South Shore Resorts, owner of Hotel Molokai, is planning construction of a \$1.6 million hotel adjoining the present hotel.

Bill Riggan's Seaside Inn, an older hotel in Kaunakakai, caters principally to Hawaii residents. Riggan said he hopes to rebuild the hotel in the future.

Molokai currently provides a number of other services important in the tourist industry. Air Molokai and Molokai Aviation Corp. offer air charter services. Grayline and Molokai Island Tours provide car rental and tour services.

Several major projects now in various stages of planning will contribute to Molokai's desirability as a tourist center.

These include expansion of the airport at Hoolehua,

east end road improvements, development of a deep-water harbor at Kaunakakai, expansion of the Molokai Irrigation System, and operation of a passenger ferry to service Molokai, Maui and Lanai.

The implications--good and bad--of tourist development for Molokai are numerous.

Development could result in more jobs for residents and more customers for island businessmen. New areas could be opened for public swimming and other recreation. The increased activity might induce more of the island's young people to remain on Molokai.

On the other hand, development could change the entire character of the island for the worse. Competition with new businesses operated by "outsiders" could harm island businessmen. Poorly-planned developments could detract from the natural appearance of the island.

Some residents criticize the minor role given Molokai people in development planning. A major complaint is that no Molokai resident is on the County Planning Commission.

molokai Reporter

Editor/Publisher DON GRAYDON
Photographer SID KENT

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Fluoridation Brings Decrease In Maunaloa Tooth Decay

The children of Maunaloa have experienced a dramatic decrease in tooth decay due to fluoridation of the town's water supply.

According to a report from the State Department of Health, nine-year-old Maunaloa children had an average of 5.8 decayed, missing or filled teeth in 1961, the year fluoridation was initiated.

In 1968, after seven years of fluoridation, the average for nine-year-olds was 2.33, a reduction of 60.4 per cent.

The decay rate for 10-

year-olds decreased 34 per cent in the same period and the rate for 11-year-olds decreased by 44.5 per cent. However, the rate for 12-year-olds increased by 9.9 per cent, which was attributed to the fact the children were already five years old when fluoridation started.

Maunaloa is the first non-military town in Hawaii to fluoridate its water supply. Libby, McNeill & Libby spent about \$4,000 for fluoridation equipment in 1961, and pays an annual operational cost of about 40¢ per resident.

Blood Drive

Molokai residents donated 111 pints of blood to the Stanley Sakai Memorial Blood Bank at Molokai General Hospital during a one-day blood drive last month. Residents are eligible to draw on the supply when needed, without charge.

STATE APPROPRIATION FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENT

The State has appropriated \$71,000 for new culverts to handle water runoff on the main highway immediately west of Kaunakakai. Cars occasionally must ford the road during rainy periods, and the area has been impassable at times.

Navy Project At Lookout

A "classified" project involving the U.S. Navy and the LTV company of Dallas is currently underway at the Kalaupapa lookout.

Terry Sanks, a civilian Navy employee in charge of the work, said the Navy would permit him to give no details of the project.

Sanks said, however, that the work is "non-detrimental to the people of the island, or to anyone else."

The project headquarters on the cliffs above Kalaupapa includes a large trailer, a generator, and two small structures which apparently serve as offices or storage sheds.

Molokai Junior Cagers Compete in Biddy League

The Molokai Biddy Basketball League is underway for 1969, providing recreation and athletic competition for all 8-to-12-year-old boys who want to participate.

The public is invited to attend all games in the Jaycees-sponsored league. Games will be played at the Molokai Community Center gymnasium.

FRI., NOV. 7:
Warriors vs Colts, 6 p.m.
Rams vs Lakers, 7 p.m.
SAT., NOV. 8:
Giants vs Atoms, 6 p.m.
Vikings vs Packers, 7 p.m.
FRI., NOV. 14:
Tiros vs Warriors, 6:30 p.m.
Titans vs Vikings, 7:30 p.m.
SAT., NOV. 15:
Colts vs Atoms, 6:30 p.m.
Rams vs Royals, 7:30 p.m.
Lakers vs Packers, 8:30 p.m.

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6
7
8

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Ralston's Corn Chex. 57
Armour's Roast Beef, 12 oz. 55
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